

# December 18, 2022 Announcements

## WORSHIP

### Join Us at the Christmas Reception Following Worship Today!

Sunday, December 18, following Worship

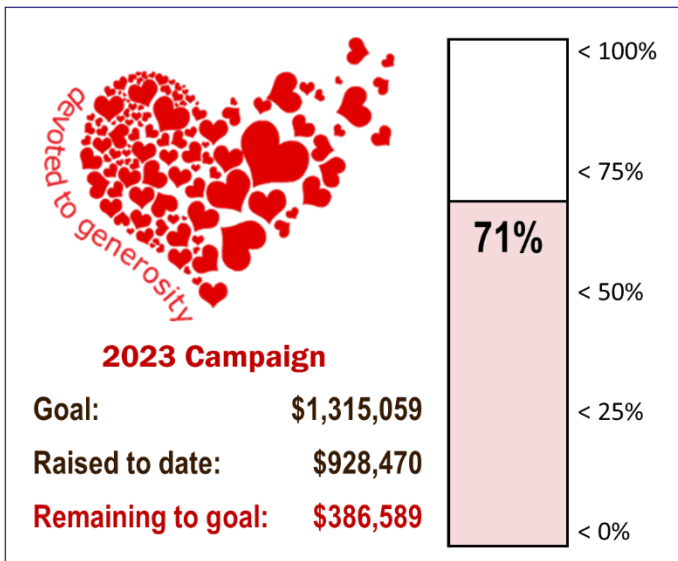
Don't miss an opportunity to enjoy the hospitality of our deacons at our traditional Christmas Reception held in Fellowship Hall immediately after today's Lessons and Carols Worship service.

### Christmas Eve Services

Join us for Worship at 4:00 and 9:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve. Both services will include communion and end with the candlelight liturgy. The 4:00 p.m. service will have an extended children's scripture conversation in place of the sermon. Please note: **The church nursery will not be staffed for the services on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.** Children are always welcome in worship! But if you need to step out of the Sanctuary, the new Gathering Spot (formerly the front office) will be open with a comfy place to relax with toys, books, coffee, and a live-stream of the Worship service.

### "Devoted to Generosity" Update

Our congregation's generosity continues to be on display, as more pledges arrive for 2023. The latest count for our "Devoted to Generosity" stewardship campaign shows pledges of over \$928,000, about 71 percent of our pledge goal of \$1.3 million for 2023. This money will pay for our missions, our ministry, and our staff in the coming year. Your generosity, especially during this busy holiday time, underscores our gratitude for God's love and our quest to fulfill Jesus Christ's call for caring for the least of us.



### Thanks to All Involved in our Successful Christmas Pageant!



Over 40 children and teens participated in last week's Christmas Pageant! Over 190 worshippers attended in person with another 56 online. It was a special day! We thank all who helped with the pageant and wish to give an extra thank you to our pageant committee who began planning last summer! They include **Mary Junk, Julie Burchett, Carrie Rao, Shawn Portell, and Patty Mabie** (who we accidentally left off the bulletin last week! Sorry Patty!!) Thank you for bringing the good news of the birth of Jesus Christ!!

### Christmas Joy Offering



The Christmas Joy Offering, a special collection of the PC(USA), provides much-needed assistance to PC(USA) church workers and their families. It also supports Presbyterian-affiliated racial and ethnic schools and colleges that enable students to develop their gifts and find their calling. Donations may be made by check, or online by selecting "PCUSA Special Offering" in the drop-down box and indicating "Joy Offering" in the memo.

### End of the Year Giving Reminder

Please have your End of the Year Giving to the Church Business Office by Tuesday, December 27, to be included on your 2022 statement. Your statement will be sent in January 2023. To check the status of your 2022 pledge payment, contact Joyce Kimmons at [jlk@wgpc.org](mailto:jlk@wgpc.org) or Jan Scheurer at [jls@wgpc.org](mailto:jls@wgpc.org).



## Upcoming Advent and Christmas Events

- December 18: Lessons and Carols  
 Christmas Reception hosted by the Deacons following Worship  
 Youth Christmas Party at 5:00 p.m.
- December 24: Christmas Eve Worship at 4:00 and 9:00 p.m.
- December 25: Christmas Day Worship at 9:30 a.m.

## Holiday Hours and Staffing

From now through the holidays, WGPC staff coverage may be limited. Please call ahead before you visit. The WGPC offices will be closed on: Friday, December 23; Monday, December 26; Friday, December 30; and Monday, January 2.

## MISSION

### Brighten the Holidays for Others!

*Deadlines: Wednesday afternoon, December 21 (gifts)  
 Sunday, December 29 (financial donations)*



Our Giving Tree is wrapping up, and we are grateful for the many ways in which our members have helped us support our neighbors. If you purchased an item – pajamas, coats, underwear for kids aged 3-18 or kitchen

utensils, pans, and twin or queen size comforters, please bring the items to the bin in the church hallway by Wednesday afternoon, December 21. If you would like to donate, you can do so by check (indicating “Giving Tree” in the memo) or online using the church website, by December 29. Thank you!

### Furniture Assemblers Needed

*Sunday, January 8, 5:00-7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall*  
 Do you love assembling IKEA furniture? Or just want a chance to partner with our youth? Then join us for our assembly event as we put together IKEA storage units for Home Sweet Home. We’ll enjoy a pizza dinner together and then divide into small groups to work together on a fun challenge! Cloth bins will be added to make nice clothing storage units for children served by HSH. Sign up using the link in the Friday Flash or email Beth at [bok@wgpc.org](mailto:bok@wgpc.org) for more information.

## December Give-A-Meal-A-Month

Give-A-Meal-A-Month provides a variety of healthy foods to create a meal for those served by Webster-Rock Hill Ministries. Donations can now be dropped off in the new Mission Hub! Please note the menu has changed from what was published last week: canned beef stew, canned peas (no or low salt), canned mixed fruit (lite or in fruit juice), box of au gratin potatoes, and hot chocolate. Additional needs: baby foods.

## FAITH FORMATION

### FAITH FORMATION THIS WEEK

*(see event descriptions below)*

Sunday 12/18	Wednesday 12/21	Thursday 12/22
<b>Coffee and Conversation</b> 8:30 a.m.	<b>Men’s Bible Study</b> 7:00 a.m.	<b>Disciples’ Bible Study</b> 10:00 a.m.
<b>Celtics &amp; Agape Christmas Party</b> 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.		

## SUNDAY ADULT EDUCATION

***Please note: See the Friday Flash for the current Zoom link for Sunday Adult Education classes.***

**Coffee & Conversation with the Lectionary**  
 Today, 8:30-9:15 a.m. in the Parlor and by Zoom  
*After this morning’s meeting, meetings will not resume until Sunday, January 8.*

## SUNDAY YOUTH EDUCATION

**Sunday School, Celtics, and Agape**  
*After this morning’s Sunday School and tonight’s Celtics and Agape Christmas party, youth education will not meet again until Sunday, January 8.*

## OPPORTUNITIES DURING THE WEEK

**Disciples’ Bible Study**  
*Thursday Mornings 10:00 – 11:30 a.m., in the Parlor and by Zoom (Will not meet Thursday, December 29)*  
 This lively and interactive group will explore the Gospel of Matthew. Facilitated by Rev. Susan Andrews.

**Men’s Bible Study**  
*Tuesday, December 20, 7:00-8:00 a.m. by Zoom*  
 Facilitated by Rev. Dale Kuhn, former director of Care and Counseling. Contact Frank Bloemke at [ekmeolb@gmail.com](mailto:ekmeolb@gmail.com).



